

In the ABSTRACT

The Abstract, previously submitted with the June 7, 2005 Response, is repeated below:

ABSTRACT

~~Include Figure 1~~

A point-to-multipoint network arrangement, method of operation and related signals for a network comprising a head-end station and at least one subscriber station connected to the head-end by means of a shared medium high-speed point-to-multipoint network (preferably a passive optical network). The method involves transmitting data upstream using a packet-switched transport protocol (e.g. Ethernet) over TDMA. By using high-speed upstream transmission with relatively long time slots and relatively short guard bands, the need for complex ranging schemes is obviated.